

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANILA 02405 170353Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 DHA-02 L-03 H-01 VO-03
/023 W

-----170414Z 072205 /72L-61

P R 170314Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6097
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USIA WASHDC

CONFIDENTIAL MANILA 2405

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CASC, PFOR, RP, US, (WIDEMAN, BERNARD)
SUBJECT: GOP EXCLUSION OF BERNARD WIDEMAN

REF: MANILA 2392

1. AMBASSADOR SPOKE TO IMMIGRATION AND DEPARTATION
COMMISSIONER REYES EVENING 16 FEBRUARY CONCERNING WIDEMAN
CASE. ALTHOUGH REYES CAREFULLY PHRASED HIS STATEMENTS TO
ASSERT THAT HE WAS ACTING ON HIS OWN AUTHORITY, IT WAS
CLEAR THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED CASE WITH PRESIDENT MARCOS
AND HAD RECEIVED HIS MARCHING ORDERS.

2. REYES SAID HE INTENDED TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR
WIDEMAN ON FRIDAY, 18 FEBRUARY. PRINCIPAL CHARGE AGAINST
WIDEMAN WOULD BE LIBELOUS FALSIFICATION IN HIS REPORTING.
PRINCIPAL COMPLAINANT WOULD BE MARCOS CRONY BOBBY BENEDICTO
AND SUBSTANCE OF CHARGE WOULD CONCERN WIDEMAN STORY
(APPARENTLY FOR FAR EAST ECONOMIC REVIEW) THAT BENEDICTO
HAD RECEIVED KICKBACKS IN SUGAR TRANSACTIONS.

3. REYES SAID WIDEMAN WOULD BE PERMITTED PRESENT WITNESSES,
HAVE LAWYER, AND OTHERWISE BE ASSURED OF DUE PROCESS.
HE SEEMED SUPREMELY CONFIDENT THAT CASE AGAINST WIDEMAN
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WAS AIRTIGHT AND THAT DEPORTATION WAS FORGONE CONCLUSION.

4. EMBASSY TALKED WITH WIDEMAN MORNING 17 FEBRUARY TO
CONVEY THIS INFORMATION. WIDEMAN SAID HE HAD JUST
RECEIVED LETTER FROM REYES INVITING HIM TO HEARING. HE
WAS ATTEMPTING ENGAGE EX-SENATOR JOVITO SALONGA AS HIS
ATTORNEY. CONSULAR OFFICER WILL ATTEND PROCEEDINGS AND

EMBASSY WILL REPORT IN DETAIL.
SULLIVAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPULSION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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